

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 144934

FOR MATLOCK FROM MCCALL

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS:OGEN

SUBJECT: OFFICIAL-INFORMAL

1. FOR PRINGLE: WOODY MCCLELLAN ASKED WHETHER IRINA EVER EXECUTED THE POWER OF ATTORNEY WHICH HE SENT YOU. HE WANTS IT URGENTLY TO BUY A HOUSE. HE SUGGESTS THAT, IF THE ONE HE SENT HAS BEEN LOST OR DESTROYED, YOU DRAFT A STANDARD POWER OF ATTORNEY FOR HER TO SIGN. ALSO, HE ASKS THAT YOU REASSURE HER HE IS NOT GIVING UP ON GETTING HER OUT OF THE USSR.

2. REGARDING AMBASSADOR'S RECEPTION FOR INTERNATIONAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE GROUP, ARMSTRONG FEELS THAT SUNDAY JUNE 25 SHOULD BE RULED OUT BECAUSE PARTICIPANTS WILL BE ARRIVING TOO LATE. SOVIETS PLAN TO INVITE GROUP ON MONDAY OR TUESDAY, DEPENDING ON BOLSHOI PROGRAM. AMBASSADOR'S RECEPTION COULD BE ON THE OTHER OF THOSE TWO EVENINGS. SUGGEST KEN
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SKOUG CONTACT SAVITSKY OF USSR CHAMBER OF COMMERCE TO WORK THIS OUT. AMBASSADOR CONCURS WITH THE APPROACH. PLEASE ADVISE.

3. BECAUSE OF THE HEAVY WORKLOAD, OER'S CANDIDATE FOR TDY IN THE ECONOMIC SECTION - WHO HAD BEEN PLANNING TO BE THERE SEPTEMBER THROUGH NOVEMBER - MAY NOT BE ABLE TO GET TO MOSCOW.

IF NOT, DOUG DIAMOND WOULD BE INCLINED NOT TO FIND ANOTHER CANDIDATE FOR THIS YEAR UNLESS EMBASSY FEELS STRONGLY THAT HE SHOULD DO SO. WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR VIEWS.

4. MARINE CARGO INSURANCE: PRESIDENT HAS ACCEPTED STR RECOMMENDATION THAT SOV MONOPOLY OF MARINE CARGO INSURANCE CONSTITUTES BURDEN AND RESTRICTION ON US TRADE. ANNOUNCEMENT OF DECISION ABOUT TO BE MADE IN FEDERAL REGISTER. CABLE IN THE WORKS.

5. TO FILL YOU IN ON PERSONNEL CHANGES HERE, IN ADDITION TO THE MOSCOW HANDS AND OTHERS YOU KNOW OF WHO ARE JOINING SOV THIS SUMMER, JIM HUFF IS MOVING IN BEHIND LEN WILLEMS, WHO WILL STAY UNTIL SEPTEMBER 1 TO GIVE US A SECURE OVERLAP IN BILAT. BILL EDGAR IS MOVING UP TO AN OFFICE DIRECTOR IN IO (WHERE NEW DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY BOB BARRY IS BUILDING QUITE AN SOV COLONY). BILL WILL BE REPLACED BY MARTY WENICK. ON THE TRAINING SIDE, WE SUCCEEDED IN ARRANGING A YEAR-LONG PROGRAM FOR OSCAR CLYATT IN HUMAN RIGHTS, AND WILL BRING HIM INTO BILAT IN 1979 AFTER A FEW CONCLUDING MONTHS OF TRAINING IN HA (WHERE WE EXPECT OSCAR TO GIVE AS MUCH TRAINING AS HE GETS).

6. TO COPE WITH EXTRA POSITIONS YOU HAVE ASKED FOR IN 1979, WE HAVE IDENTIFIED SIX JUNIOR OFFICERS, ALL WITH CONSIDER-CONFIDENTIAL

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ABLE RUSSIAN LANGUAGE, WHO SHOULD BE AVAILABLE TO CHOOSE AMONG FOR SIX MONTHS LANGUAGE TRAINING BEGINNING FEBRUARY 1979. EUR/EX NOW HOPES TO HAVE AN INDICATION ON THE REQUESTED SLOTS BY THE END OF THIS MONTH, BUT TIMING AND THE TRAINING CYCLE MADE IT NECESSARY TO LOOK AHEAD FOR CANDIDATES.

7. MARK HAS DISCUSSED HIS ARRIVAL WITH THE AMBASSADOR, WHO WOULD LIKE HIM TO ARRIVE A BIT EARLIER TO GIVE YOU MORE OPPORTUNITY TO PASS ON YOUR CONTACTS. MARK WILL PLAN TO ARRIVE ABOUT THE 27TH, WHICH WILL NECESSITATE USING A FOREIGN CARRIER. A LAST MOMENT MESSAGE FROM THE AMBASSADOR MAY BE NECESSARY TO MAKE THIS LEGAL. IF SO, WILL LET YOU KNOW.

8. DAO SHIPMENT: WE ARE BEING PRESSED FOR STATUS REPORT ON DAO SHIPMENT. DID YOU ENCOUNTER ANY DIFFICULTIES?

9. REF YOUR 12822, WE NEED YOUR RECOMMENDATIONS BY FRIDAY, AS WE OWE TALBOT A REPLY ON WHETHER LATISHEV CAN COME TO SEATTLE. VANCE

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